

Comment Re Claim Numbering

1. Upon reviewing Applicant's remarks submitted May 12, 2010, Examiner is in agreement that the claim numbering set forth in the December 16, 2005 preliminary amendment is correct. Thus, the further objection re the claim numbering is withdrawn. Additionally, the objection to claims 157 and 158 is withdrawn in light of the cancellation of claim 157 and the amendment of claim 158.

Notice of Non-Response Reply

2. The reply filed on May 12, 2010 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): while it does indicate that Group I (with claims 86-123 being in Group I) is elected, and further indicates that the first species (i.e., that of Figures 3-6) is elected, the reply does not also identify the claims readable on the elected species, as required by the restriction requirement. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

3. It is noted that it is clear that not all of the claims 86-123 are readable on the elected species of Figures 3-6.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Erica E. Cadugan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4474. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 5:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David P. Bryant can be reached on (571) 272-4526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Erica E Cadugan/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3726

eec
July 28, 2010